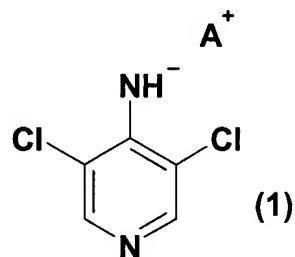


Appendix A

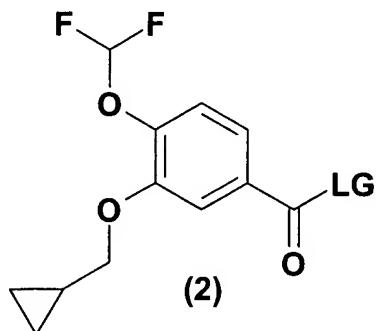
Claim Amendments

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (New) A process for the preparation of roflumilast by reacting an anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1)



in which A⁺ is a potassium cation, with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2),



in which LG is a suitable leaving group selected from a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or a radical of the formula OC(O)-1-4C-alkyl, wherein

(a) the molar ratio of the employed anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) to the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is at least 1.8 and at most 2.7,

(b) the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in a solvent selected from dimethylformamide or N-methylpyrrolidone,

(c) the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 0°C and the boiling point of the solvent used, and

(d) KOtBu is used to prepare the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1).

23. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the molar ratio of the employed anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) to the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is at least 2 and at most 2.5.

24. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the molar ratio of the employed anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) to the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 2.2.

25. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in dimethylformamide.

26. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in N-methylpyrrolidone.

27. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

28. (New) The process according to Claim 25, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

29. (New) The process according to Claim 26, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropyl-

methoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

30. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

31. (New) The process according to Claim 25, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

32. (New) The process according to Claim 26, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

33. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

34. (New) The process according to Claim 25, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

35. (New) The process according to Claim 26, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

36. (New) The process according to Claim 27, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

37. (New) The process according to Claim 28, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

38. (New) The process according to Claim 29, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

39. (New) The process according to Claim 30, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

40. (New) The process according to Claim 31, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.
41. (New) The process according to Claim 32, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.
42. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.
43. (New) The process according to Claim 25, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.
44. (New) The process according to Claim 26, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

45. (New) The process according to Claim 27, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

46. (New) The process according to Claim 28, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

47. (New) The process according to Claim 29, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

48. (New) The process according to Claim 30, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

49. (New) The process according to Claim 31, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

50. (New) The process according to Claim 32, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

51. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.
52. (New) The process according to Claim 25, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.
53. (New) The process according to Claim 26, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.
54. (New) The process according to Claim 27, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.
55. (New) The process according to Claim 28, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

56. (New) The process according to Claim 29, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

57. (New) The process according to Claim 30, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

58. (New) The process according to Claim 31, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

59. (New) The process according to Claim 32, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

60. (New) The process according to Claim 34, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

61. (New) The process according to Claim 35, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

62. (New) The process according to Claim 37, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

63. (New) The process according to Claim 38, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

64. (New) The process according to Claim 40, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

65. (New) The process according to Claim 41, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

66. (New) The process according to Claim 43, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

67. (New) The process according to Claim 44, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the

ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

68. (New) The process according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

69. (New) The process according to Claim 47, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

70. (New) The process according to Claim 49, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

71. (New) The process according to Claim 50, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

72. (New) The process according to Claim 52, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

73. (New) The process according to Claim 53, further comprising the step of

recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

74. (New) The process according to Claim 55, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

75. (New) The process according to Claim 56, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

76. (New) The process according to Claim 58, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

77. (New) The process according to Claim 59, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

78. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in dimethylformamide.

79. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in N-methylpyrrolidone.

80. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

81. (New) The process according to Claim 78, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

82. (New) The process according to Claim 79, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

83. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropyl-

methoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

84. (New) The process according to Claim 78, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

85. (New) The process according to Claim 79, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

86. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

87. (New) The process according to Claim 78, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

88. (New) The process according to Claim 79, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

89. (New) The process according to Claim 80, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

90. (New) The process according to Claim 81, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

91. (New) The process according to Claim 82, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

92. (New) The process according to Claim 83, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

93. (New) The process according to Claim 84, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

94. (New) The process according to Claim 85, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

95. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

96. (New) The process according to Claim 78, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

97. (New) The process according to Claim 79, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

98. (New) The process according to Claim 80, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

99. (New) The process according to Claim 81, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

100. (New) The process according to Claim 82, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

101. (New) The process according to Claim 83, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

102. (New) The process according to Claim 84, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

103. (New) The process according to Claim 85, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

104. (New) The process according to Claim 23, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

105. (New) The process according to Claim 78, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

106. (New) The process according to Claim 79, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

107. (New) The process according to Claim 80, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

108. (New) The process according to Claim 81, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

109. (New) The process according to Claim 82, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

110. (New) The process according to Claim 83, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

111. (New) The process according to Claim 84, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

112. (New) The process according to Claim 85, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

113. (New) The process according to Claim 87, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

114. (New) The process according to Claim 88, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

115. (New) The process according to Claim 90, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

116. (New) The process according to Claim 91, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

117. (New) The process according to Claim 93, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

118. (New) The process according to Claim 94, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

119. (New) The process according to Claim 96, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

120. (New) The process according to Claim 97, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

121. (New) The process according to Claim 99, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the

ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

122. (New) The process according to Claim 100, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

123. (New) The process according to Claim 102, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

124. (New) The process according to Claim 103, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

125. (New) The process according to Claim 105, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

126. (New) The process according to Claim 106, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

127. (New) The process according to Claim 108, further comprising the step of

recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

128. (New) The process according to Claim 109, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

129. (New) The process according to Claim 111, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

130. (New) The process according to Claim 112, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

131. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in dimethylformamide.

132. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of

3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out in N-methylpyrrolidone.

133. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

134. (New) The process according to Claim 131, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

135. (New) The process according to Claim 132, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 15°C and 40°C.

136. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

137. (New) The process according to Claim 131, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

138. (New) The process according to Claim 132, wherein the reaction of the anion of 4-amino-3,5-dichloropyridine (1) with an activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is carried out at a temperature between 20°C and 30°C.

139. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

140. (New) The process according to Claim 131, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

141. (New) The process according to Claim 132, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

142. (New) The process according to Claim 133, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

143. (New) The process according to Claim 134, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

144. (New) The process according to Claim 135, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

145. (New) The process according to Claim 136, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

146. (New) The process according to Claim 137, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

147. (New) The process according to Claim 138, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl chloride.

148. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

149. (New) The process according to Claim 131, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

150. (New) The process according to Claim 132, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

151. (New) The process according to Claim 133, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

152. (New) The process according to Claim 134, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

153. (New) The process according to Claim 135, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

154. (New) The process according to Claim 136, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

155. (New) The process according to Claim 137, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

156. (New) The process according to Claim 138, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoyl bromide.

157. (New) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

158. (New) The process according to Claim 131, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

159. (New) The process according to Claim 132, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

160. (New) The process according to Claim 133, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

161. (New) The process according to Claim 134, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

162. (New) The process according to Claim 135, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

163. (New) The process according to Claim 136, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

164. (New) The process according to Claim 137, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

165. (New) The process according to Claim 138, wherein the activated derivative of 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid (2) is a 3-cyclopropylmethoxy-4-difluoromethoxybenzoic acid 1-4C-alkyl-ester.

166. (New) The process according to Claim 140, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

167. (New) The process according to Claim 141, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

168. (New) The process according to Claim 143, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

169. (New) The process according to Claim 144, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

170. (New) The process according to Claim 146, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

171. (New) The process according to Claim 147, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

172. (New) The process according to Claim 149, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

173. (New) The process according to Claim 150, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

174. (New) The process according to Claim 152, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

175. (New) The process according to Claim 153, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the

ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

176. (New) The process according to Claim 155, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

177. (New) The process according to Claim 156, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

178. (New) The process according to Claim 158, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

179. (New) The process according to Claim 159, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

180. (New) The process according to Claim 161, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

181. (New) The process according to Claim 162, further comprising the step of

recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

182. (New) The process according to Claim 164, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.

183. (New) The process according to Claim 165, further comprising the step of recrystallizing the roflumilast in a mixture of isopropanol and water wherein the ratio of isopropanol/water is between 85:15 and 100:0% by volume.